



STATE OF MARYLAND

DMMH

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March 26, 2010

Public Health & Emergency Preparedness Bulletin: # 2010:11 Reporting for the week ending 03/20/10 (MMWR Week #11)

CURRENT HOMELAND SECURITY THREAT LEVELS

National: Yellow (ELEVATED) *The threat level in the airline sector is Orange (HIGH)
Maryland: Yellow (ELEVATED)

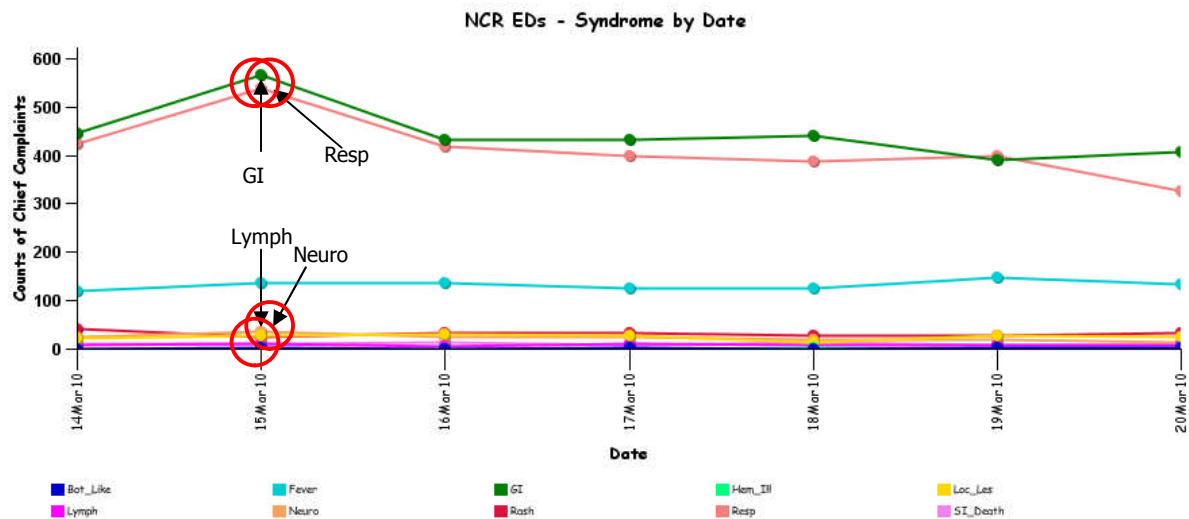
SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

ESSENCE (Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics):

Graphical representation is provided for all syndromes, excluding the "Other" category, all age groups, and red alerts are circled.

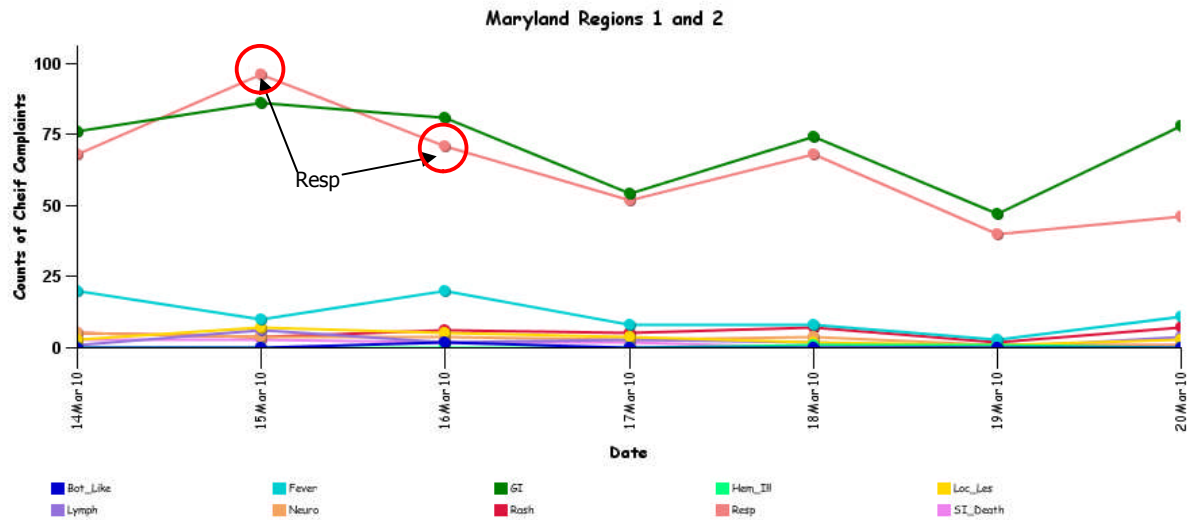
Note: ESSENCE – ANCR Spring 2006 (v 1.3) now uses syndrome categories consistent with CDC definitions.

Overall, no suspicious patterns of illness were identified. Track backs to the health care facilities yielded no suspicious patterns of illness.

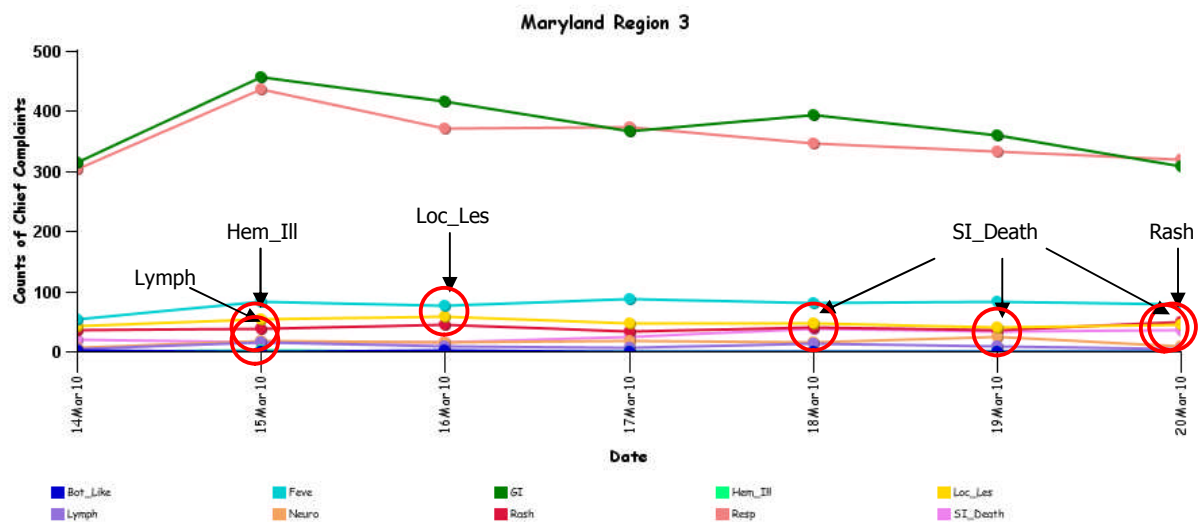


* Includes EDs in all jurisdictions in the NCR (MD, VA, and DC) reporting to ESSENCE

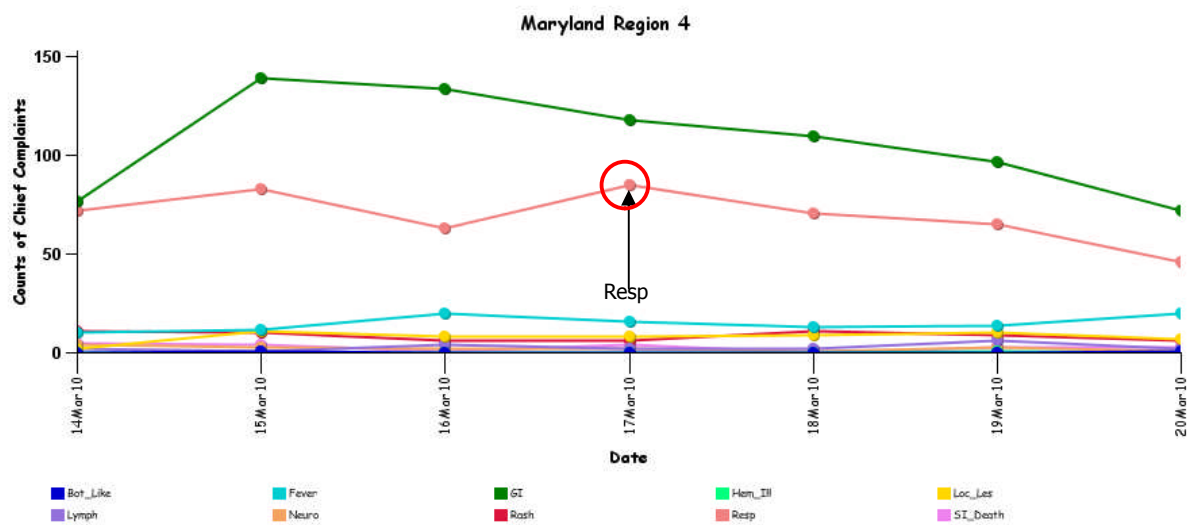
MARYLAND ESSENCE:



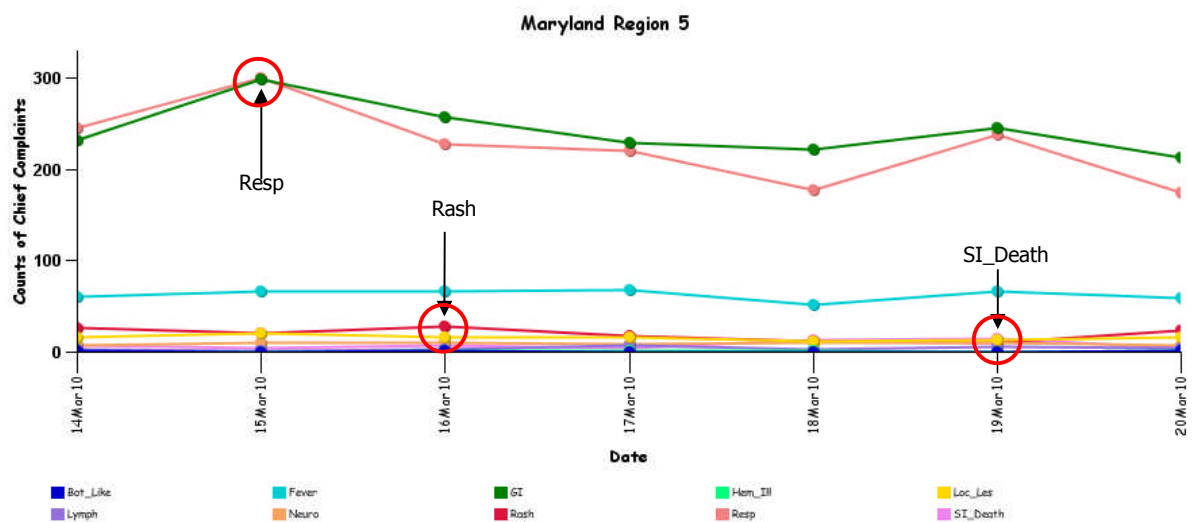
* Region 1 and 2 includes EDs in Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington counties reporting to ESSENCE



* Region 3 includes EDs in Anne Arundel, Baltimore city, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard counties reporting to ESSENCE



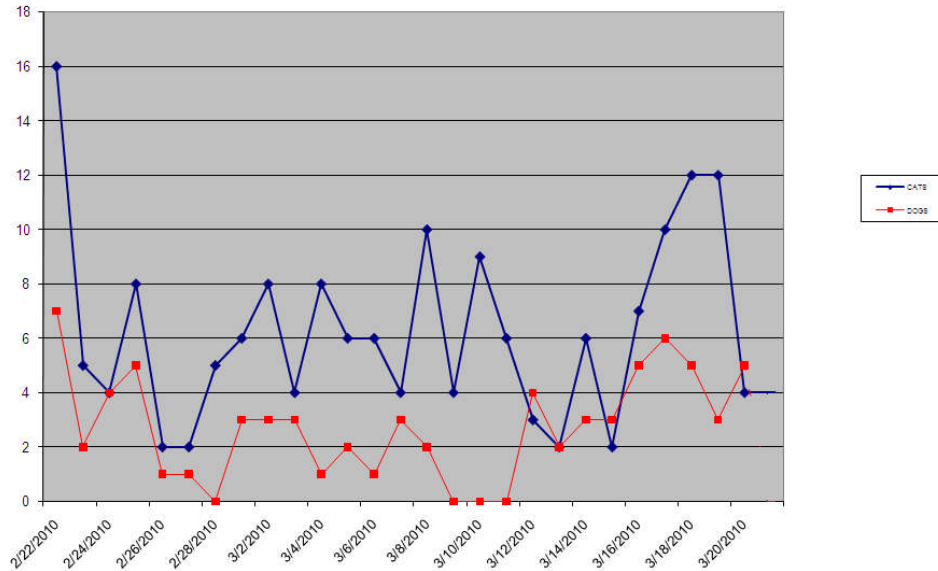
* Region 4 includes EDs in Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester counties reporting to ESSENCE



* Region 5 includes EDs in Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's, and St. Mary's counties reporting to ESSENCE

BALTIMORE CITY SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE PROJECT: No suspicious patterns in the medic calls, ED Syndromic Surveillance and the animal carcass surveillance. Graphical representation is provided for animal carcass surveillance 311 data.

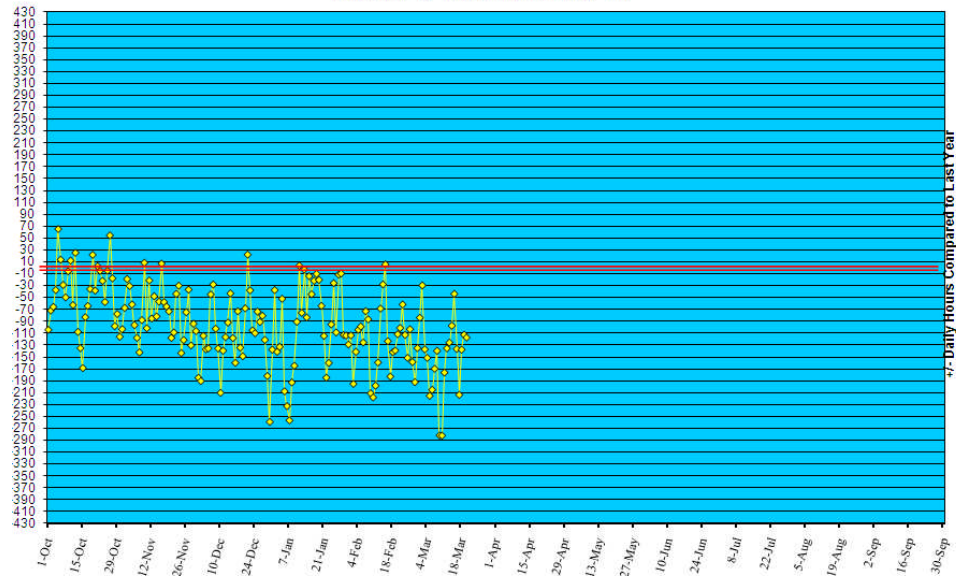
Dead Animal Pick-Up Calls to 311



REVIEW OF EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT UTILIZATION

YELLOW ALERT TIMES (ED DIVERSION): The reporting period begins 10/01/09.

**Statewide Yellow Alert Comparison
Daily Historical Deviations
October 1, '09 to March 20, '10**



REVIEW OF MORTALITY REPORTS

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner: OCME reports no suspicious deaths related to an emerging public health threat for the week.

MARYLAND TOXIDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

Poison Control Surveillance Monthly Update: Investigations of the outliers and alerts observed by the Maryland Poison Center and National Capital Poison Center in February 2010 did not identify any cases of possible public health threats.

REVIEW OF MARYLAND DISEASE SURVEILLANCE FINDINGS

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE CASE REPORTS (confirmed, probable and suspect):

Meningitis:	<u>Aseptic</u>	<u>Meningococcal</u>
New cases (March 14- March 20, 2010):	16	0
Prior week (March 07- March 13, 2010):	07	0
Week#11, 2009 (March 15- March 21, 2009):	06	0

7 outbreaks were reported to DHMH during MMWR Week 11 (March 14-20, 2010)

6 Gastroenteritis outbreaks

4 outbreaks of GASTROENTERITIS in Nursing Homes
1 outbreaks of GASTROENTERITIS in Assisted Living Facilities
1 outbreak of GASTROENTERITIS in a Hospital

1 Respiratory illness outbreaks

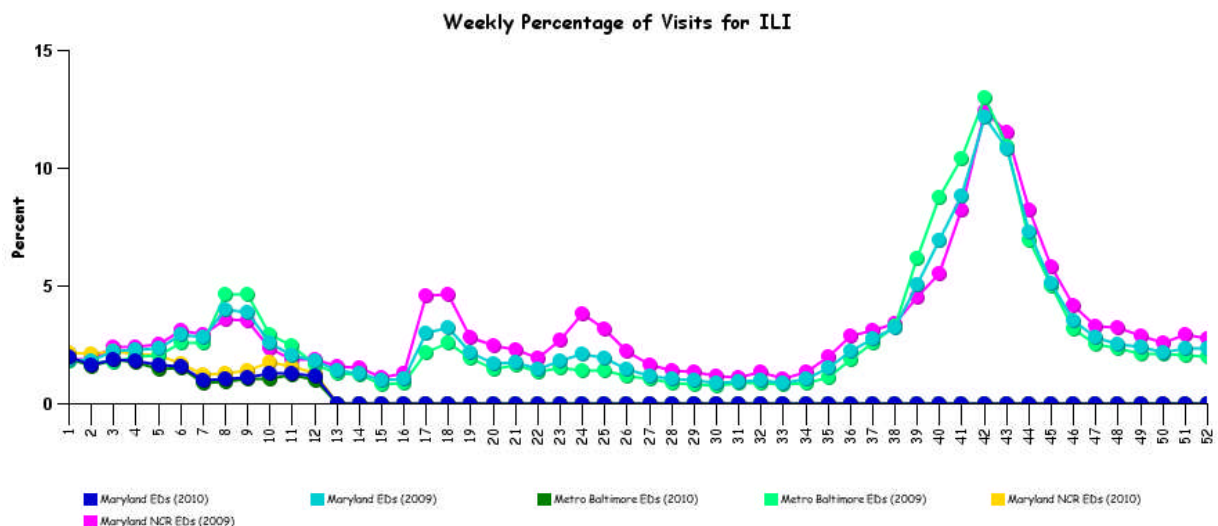
1 outbreak of PNEUMONIA in a Nursing Home

MARYLAND INFLUENZA STATUS: Influenza activity in Maryland for Week 11 is SPORADIC.

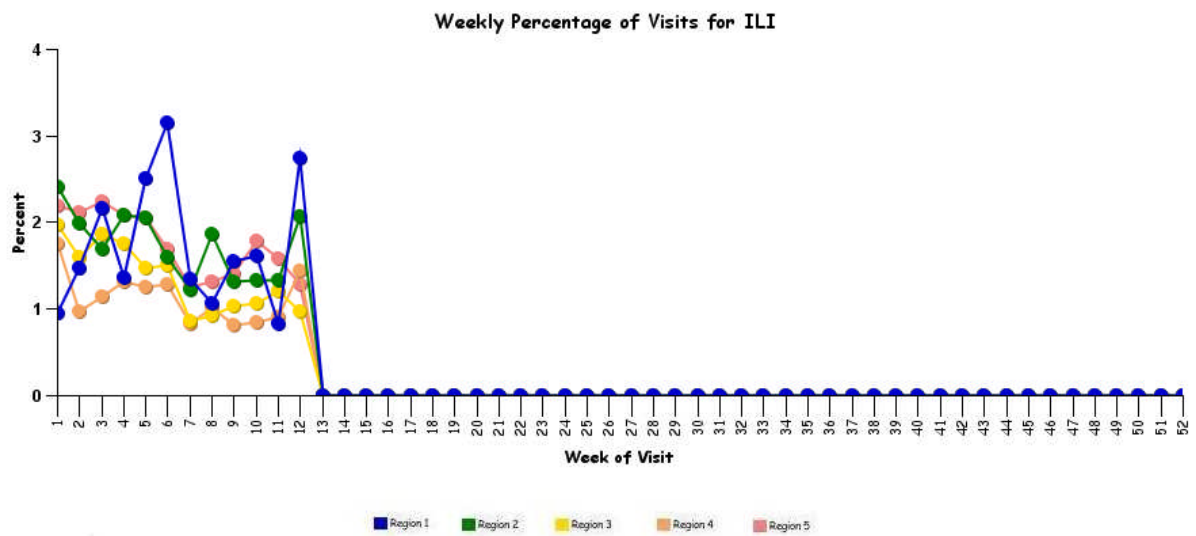
SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE FOR INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS

Graphs show the percentage of total weekly Emergency Department patient chief complaints that have one or more ICD9 codes representing provider diagnoses of influenza-like illness. These graphs do not represent confirmed influenza.

Graphs show proportion of total weekly cases seen in a particular syndrome/subsyndrome over the total number of cases seen. Weeks run Sunday through Saturday and the last week shown may be artificially high or low depending on how much data is available for the week.



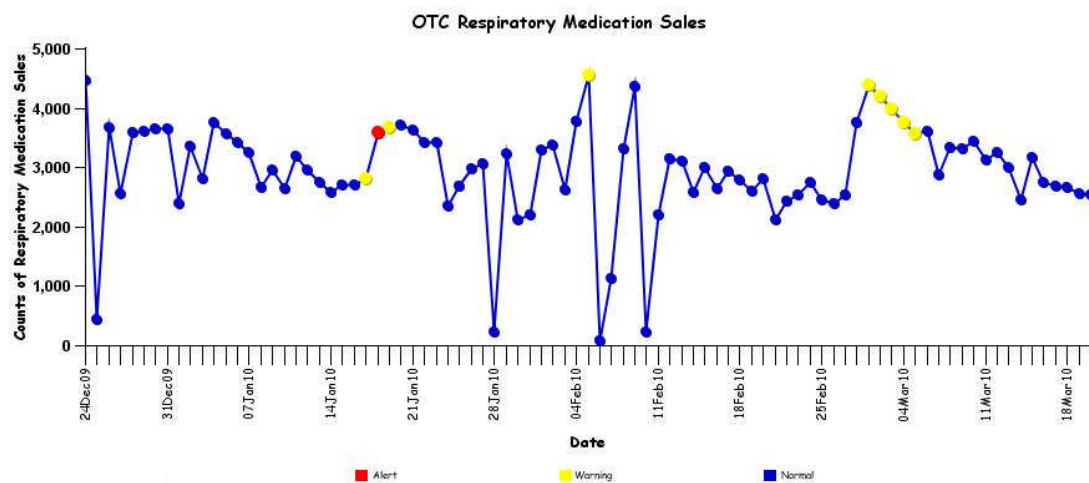
* Includes 2009 and 2010 Maryland ED visits for ILI in Metro Baltimore (Region 3), Maryland NCR (Region 5), and Maryland Total



*Includes 2010 Maryland ED visits for ILI in Region 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

OVER-THE-COUNTER (OTC) SALES FOR RESPIRATORY MEDICATIONS:

Graph shows the daily number of over-the-counter respiratory medication sales in Maryland at a large pharmacy chain.



PANDEMIC INFLUENZA UPDATE:

WHO Pandemic Influenza Phase: Phase 6: Characterized by community level outbreaks in at least one other country in a different WHO region in addition to the criteria defined in Phase 5. Designation of this phase will indicate that a global pandemic is under way. Definition of Phase 5 is characterized by human-to-human spread of the virus into at least two countries in one WHO region. While most countries will not be affected at this stage, the declaration of Phase 5 is a strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of the planned mitigation measures is short.

US Pandemic Influenza Stage: Stage 0: New domestic animal outbreak in at-risk country

****More information regarding WHO Pandemic Influenza Phase and US Pandemic Influenza Stage can be found at:**
[http://preparedness.dhmm.maryland.gov/Docs/PandemicInfluenza/PandemicInfluenzaResponseAnnex\(Vers7.2\).pdf](http://preparedness.dhmm.maryland.gov/Docs/PandemicInfluenza/PandemicInfluenzaResponseAnnex(Vers7.2).pdf)

AVIAN INFLUENZA-RELATED REPORTS:

WHO update: As of March 16, 2010, the WHO-confirmed global total of human cases of H5N1 avian influenza virus infection stands at 489, of which 289 have been fatal. Thus, the case fatality rate for human H5N1 is about 59%.

AVIAN INFLUENZA, HUMAN (VIET NAM): 16 March 2010, The Ho Chi Minh City Department of Health announced a suspected case of bird flu virus on 16 March [2010]. The patient, a 3-year-old child from Thuan An district, Binh Duong province, was hospitalised with symptoms of petechial fever, but she then tested positive for the A/H5N1 virus and is now under quarantine for treatment at Nhi Dong hospital, Ho Chi Minh City. "There are many poultry breeders around the patient's house," said her family. The Hospital for Tropical Diseases and Pasteur Institute have sent medical experts to Nhi Dong hospital for consultation and samples have been taken for medical tests. The final result will be announced on 17 Mar [2010]. The Pasteur Institute will send officials to the patient's living quarters for inspection and put those who have contact with her in quarantine.

AVIAN INFLUENZA (ROMANIA): 16 March 2010, Romania has identified an outbreak of bird flu at a poultry farm close to Ukraine and enforced a 20 km [12.5 mi]-wide surveillance zone around it, the European Union's executive said on Tuesday [16 Mar 2010]. The outbreak of the H5N1 virus in the commune of Letea near the Ukrainian border is the first detected in Europe since it was found in a wild duck in Germany a year ago [2009]. "Romania's national laboratory confirmed yesterday [15 Mar 2010] that the outbreak concerns the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain of avian influenza," the European Commission said in a statement. "In order to limit the spread of the virus, the Romanian authorities applied immediately the necessary control measures laid down in EU legislation," it added. All birds in the farm will have to be slaughtered, a 6 km [4 mi]-wide protection zone will have to be enforced around it, surrounded by a 20 km-wide "high risk" surveillance zone with strict movement controls. "Gatherings of poultry and other birds are banned, and on-farm bio-security measures must be strengthened," said the Commission.

H1N1 INFLUENZA (Swine Flu):

Resources:

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>

<http://www.dhmm.maryland.gov/swineflu/>

NATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

No new disease outbreaks related to CDC Critical Biological Agents were reported for MWWR week 11.

INTERNATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

ANTHRAX, HUMAN, ANIMAL (PHILIPPINES): 19 March 2010, A massive vaccination of animals against anthrax disease is underway in Cagayan province, following a report last month that residents fell ill from eating a carabao stricken with the deadly disease. Dr. Arnulfo Perez, Chief of the Animal Division of the Cagayan Veterinary Office, told the Manila Bulletin Friday [19 Mar 2010] that his office has been conducting vaccination of cattle, carabao, and goats against anthrax disease. "We had already vaccinated with anti-anthrax [vaccine] the animals from Lasam and Enrile towns," Perez said, referring to the towns where animals had earlier tested positive for anthrax disease. (Anthrax is listed in Category A on the CDC list of Critical Biological Agents) *Non-suspect case

BRUCELLOSIS, BOVINE (RUSSIA): 17 March 2010, An outbreak of brucellosis in cattle has been registered in the Kletskiy rayon (district) according to the local authorities. The incident involving 51 cattle happened in the village of Ventsi. A veterinary post has been installed in the village to prevent trade of milk and dairy products. (Brucellosis is listed in Category B on the CDC list of Critical Biological Agents) *Non-suspect case

OTHER RESOURCES AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST

More information concerning Public Health and Emergency Preparedness can be found at the Office of Preparedness and Response website: <http://preparedness.dhmd.maryland.gov/>

Maryland's Resident Influenza Tracking System: www.tinyurl.com/flu-enroll

NOTE: This weekly review is a compilation of data from various surveillance systems, interpreted with a focus on a potential BT event. It is not meant to be inclusive of all epidemiology data available, nor is it meant to imply that every activity reported is a definitive BT event. International reports of outbreaks due to organisms on the CDC Critical Biological Agent list will also be reported. While not "secure", please handle this information in a professional manner. Please feel free to distribute within your organization, as you feel appropriate, to other professional staff involved in emergency preparedness and infection control.

For questions about the content of this review or if you have received this and do not wish to receive these weekly notices, please e-mail me. If you have information that is pertinent to this notification process, please send it to me to be included in the routine report.

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